

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 2, 2009

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for standing with American workers, manufacturers, and innovators in making clear that your administration does not support measures to weaken intellectual property rights in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change negotiations.

As you know, some countries have suggested including measures to weaken intellectual property rights in the negotiations. We would oppose any such measures vigorously.

We believe intellectual property protections and the incentives they provide for the development of innovative technologies lie at the heart of America's competitiveness. Intellectual property rights allow innovators to attract the investment needed to develop and market their ideas, promoting economic growth and prosperity and creating high-value American jobs.

In recent congressional testimony, U.S. Special Envoy for Climate Change Todd Stern stated unequivocally that the administration does not support weakening intellectual property rights in the climate change talks. He further stated that the administration believes that the development of new technologies promoted by intellectual property protections will be central to addressing climate change. And in recent public remarks, United States Trade Representative Ron Kirk echoed those statements, saying that the administration would not agree to weaken intellectual property protections in any climate change negotiations.

We applaud and share these views. Any weakening of intellectual property rights in climate change negotiations would undermine innovation and, ultimately, the U.S. economy. We urge you to stand fast in your support of American intellectual property, American workers, and American innovators during the negotiations.

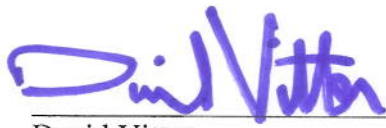
Sincerely,



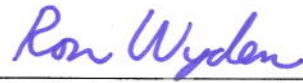
Evan Bayh
United States Senator



George Voinovich
United States Senator



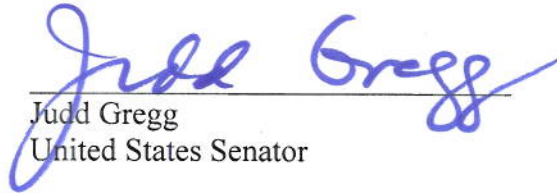
David Vitter
United States Senator



Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator



Judd Gregg
United States Senator



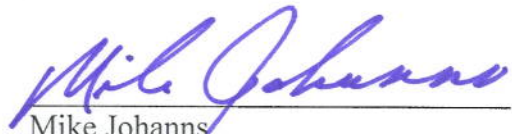
Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator



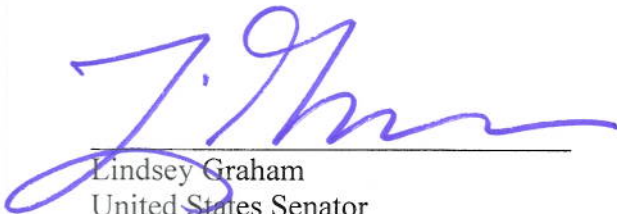
Robert Bennett
United States Senator



Charles Schumer
United States Senator



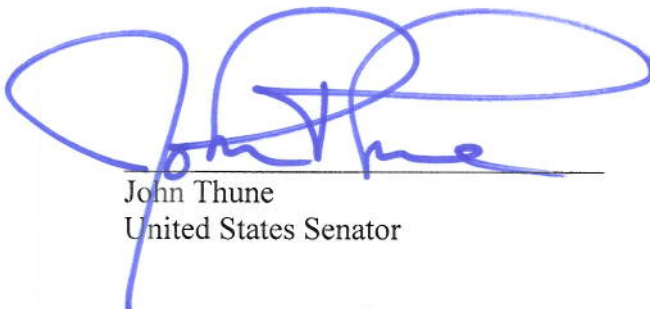
Mike Johanns
United States Senator



Lindsey Graham
United States Senator



Tom Coburn
United States Senator



John Thune
United States Senator



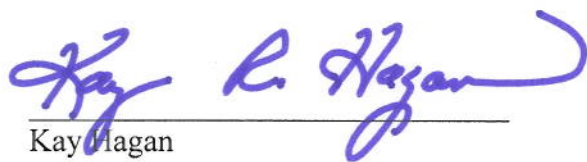
Ben Nelson
United States Senator



Olympia Snowe
United States Senator



Tom Carper
United States Senator



Kay Hagan
United States Senator



Joe Lieberman
United States Senator



Mary Landrieu
United States Senator



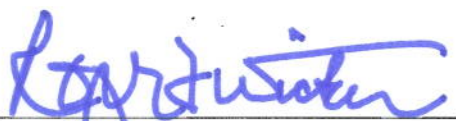
Carl Levin
United States Senator



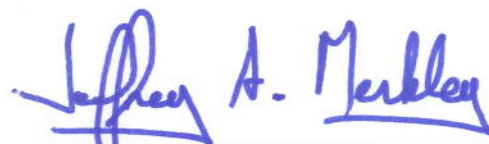
Jeff Sessions
United States Senator



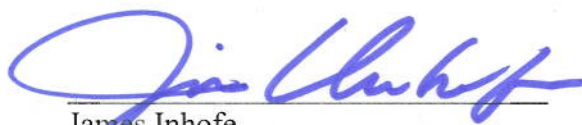
Roland Burris
United States Senator



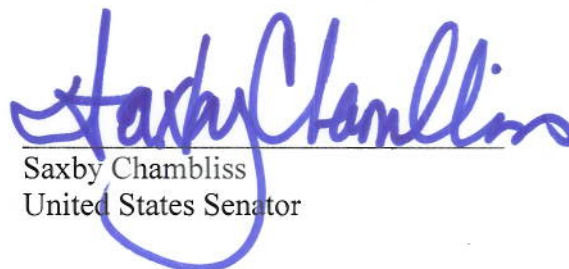
Roger Wicker
United States Senator



Jeff Merkley
United States Senator



James Inhofe
United States Senator



Saxby Chambliss
United States Senator



Herb Kohl
United States Senator



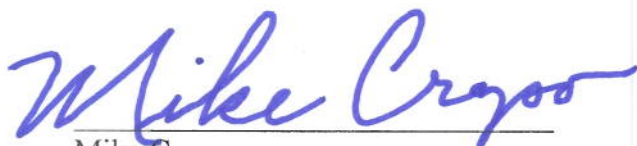
Robert Casey
United States Senator



Susan Collins
United States Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



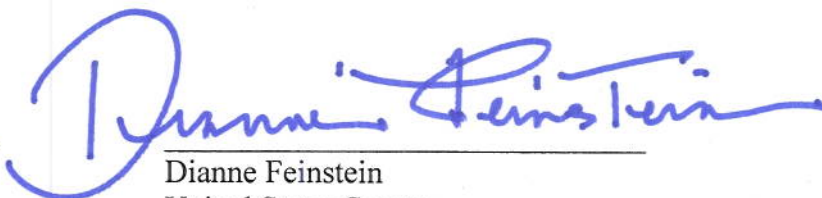
Mike Crapo
United States Senator



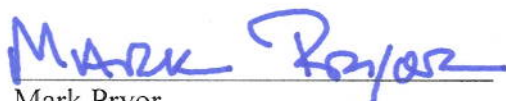
Michael Bennet
United States Senator



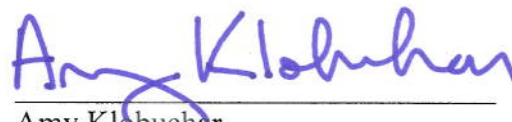
Johnny Isakson
United States Senator



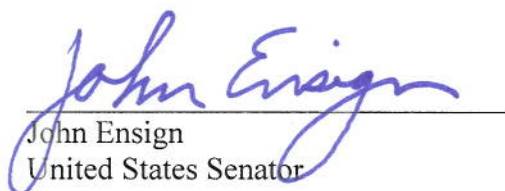
Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator



Mark Pryor
United States Senator



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



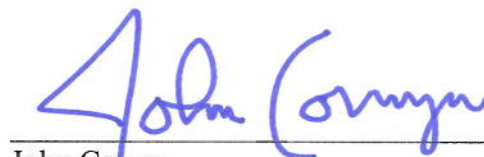
John Ensign
United States Senator



Blanche Lincoln
United States Senator



Lamar Alexander
United States Senator



John Cornyn
United States Senator



George LeMieux
United States Senator



Al Franken
United States Senator